GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1131
ANSWERED ON:08.02.2017
Unique Biometric Competency Centre
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Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of challenges posed by biometric recognition and the steps taken/ being taken to face/overcome these challenges;

(b) whether the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has set up a Unique Biometric Competency Centre (UBCC); and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

(a): The challenges posed by biometric recognition relate to capturing the biometrics of residents with poor quality of finger prints, people with amputated fingers/ hands, leprosy patients, blind people, people with eye conditions such as deformed pupil/ IRIS (mostly result of surgeries), other types of eye abnormalities like squint eyes, people suffering from involuntary movement of the eye-ball. Majority of the eye condition cases were from non-circular pupil shape caused due to cataract operations using intra capsular cataract extractions cryo-surgery technique used prior to 1990. These challenges were addressed by the UIDAI Committee on Biometrics in its report "Biometrics Design Standards for UID Applications". Subsequent to this Report, UIDAI conducted field studies which concluded that, using multi modal (both finger print and IRIS based) de-duplication provides an acceptable level of accuracy for issuing UID numbers.

Accordingly, to overcome the problem of poor quality finger prints and IRIS related conditions multi modal de-duplication, i.e. both IRIS and finger print based de-duplication systems were adopted by UIDAI for issuing UID numbers.

(b): Unique Biometric Competency Centre (UBCC) has not been set up by UIDAI.

(c): Does not arise in view of (b) above.

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